GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3540
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
SOCIAL SECURITY FOR UNORGANISED SECTOR
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the comparison between the benefits that are accruing to the workers in the organised sector and the unorganised sector;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to ensure that the various benefits and social security cover being provided to the workers in the organised sector is made available to the workers in the unorganised sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when this scheme is likely to be implemented alongwith the number of employees likely to be benefited therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (d): As per the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) there are about 39.6 crore workers in the country out of which about 36.9 crore in the unorganised sector. The existing Social Security legislations like the Workmen`s Compensation Act, 1923; the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952 etc. are applicable to all workers.

The Employees State Insurance Act providing medical care is applicable only to the workers in the organised sector. The Welfare Funds constituted by the Ministry of Labour provide medical benefits to certain workers in the unorganised sector like beedi workers, cine workers and non-coal mine workers. The unorganised sector workers is also provided social protection under various schemes like National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Janshree Bime Yojana etc.

The State Governments also operate schemes and programmes for workers. However keeping in view the inadequacy of social protection measures to the workers of unorganised sector the Government propose to bring a legislation for the unorganised sector workers to ensure their minimum social protection.